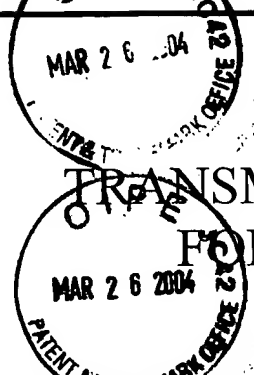


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 <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>	Application Serial Number	09/935,487*
	Filing Date	August 23, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Rioux
	Group Art Unit	3738
	Examiner Name	B. Pellegrino
	Attorney Docket No.	BSC-187
	Patent No.	Not Yet Assigned
	Issue Date	Not Yet Assigned

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Check Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment and Response (9 pgs.) <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Official Draftsperson including Drawings [Total Sheets ____] <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Sequence Listing submission <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy/CD <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice to File Missing Parts of Application <input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (Revocation of Prior Powers) <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney for Utility or Design Patent Application <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> CD(s) for large table or computer program <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment After Allowance <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Certificate of Correction <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Correction (in duplicate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal to Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief (in triplicate) <input type="checkbox"/> Status Inquiry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return receipt postcard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of First Class Mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below)
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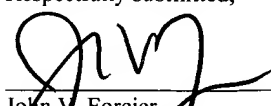
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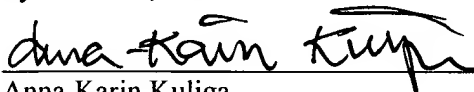
PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. BSC-187

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Rioux *et al.* CONFIRMATION NO.: 1401  
SERIAL NO.: 09/935,487 GROUP NO.: 3738  
FILING DATE: August 23, 2001 EXAMINER: B. Pellegrino  
TITLE: Maintaining an Open Passageway Through a Body Lumen

**CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any document(s) referred to as enclosed herein, is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 24th day of March, 2004.

  
Anna-Karin Kuliga

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is/are:

1. Transmittal Form (1 pg.);
2. Amendment and Response (9 pgs.); and a
3. Return receipt postcard.

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PATENT  
Atty. Docket No. BSC-187

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Rioux *et al.* CONF. NO.: 1401  
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/935,487 ART UNIT: 3738  
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TITLE: Maintaining an Open Passageway Through a Body Lumen

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL ACTION**

This paper is responsive to a final Office action, Paper No. 11, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 26, 2004. Applicants believe this submission necessitates no petition or fee. Nevertheless, if any petition or fee is required, please consider this a conditional petition therefor and authorization to charge deposit account no. 20-0531.

In response to the Office action, please amend the above-identified application, without prejudice, as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.